

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Kermit Edward Bye**

Quentin N. Burdick U.S. Courthouse, 655 North First Avenue,  
Chambers 330, Fargo, ND 58102-4952  
Tel: (701) 297-7270 Fax: (701) 297-7275  
E-mail: kbye@ce8.uscourts.gov



**Kermit Edward Bye**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1937  
Education: North Dakota 1959 BSBA, 1962 JD  
Began Service: April 22, 2000  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton  
Political Affiliation: Democrat

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk, Grand Forks County States Attorney (1959-1962);  
Law Clerk, Nelson & Mack (1959-1962)

**Government:** North Dakota Deputy Securities Commissioner and Special  
Assistant Attorney General (1962-1966); Assistant United States Attorney,  
District of North Dakota, United States Attorney's Office, United States  
Department of Justice (1966-1968)

**Legal Practice:** Partner, Member and Stockholder, Vogel, Weir, Bye, Hunke  
& McCormick (1968-2000)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Bar  
Foundation, American Bar Association; American Judicature Society;  
Federal Judges Association; State Bar Association of North Dakota

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Courtney Clixby** ..... (701) 297-7274  
Began Service: 2007  
E-mail: courtney\_clixby@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Education: Michigan 1998 BA; Minnesota 2005 JD  
Law Clerk **Paul D. Johnson** ..... (701) 297-7276  
E-mail: paul\_johnson@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Education: North Dakota 1990 JD  
Law Clerk **Antonella Karlin** ..... (701) 297-7273  
Began Service: 2007  
E-mail: antonella\_karlin@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Education: Colgate 1999 BA;  
George Washington 2003 JD  
Law Clerk **James E. Nicolai** ..... (701) 297-7272  
E-mail: jim\_nicolai@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Education: North Dakota 1990 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Zue Zan Hanna** ..... (701) 297-7270  
E-mail: zhanna@ce8.uscourts.gov  
Education: North Dakota 1982 BSBA

**Chambers of Circuit Judge William Jay Riley**

Roman L. Hruska Courthouse, 111 South 18th Plaza, Suite 4303,  
Omaha, NE 68102-1322  
Tel: (402) 661-7575 Fax: (402) 661-7574

**William Jay Riley**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1947  
Education: Nebraska 1969 BA, 1972 JD  
Began Service: August 16, 2001  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush  
Political Affiliation: Republican

**Affiliation:** Adjunct Professor, Trial Practice, School of Law, Creighton  
University; Adjunct Professor, Trial Advocacy, College of Law, University of  
Nebraska System

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Trial Practice, College of Law, University of  
Nebraska-Lincoln

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Donald P. Lay, United States Court of  
Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (1972-1973)

**Chambers of Circuit Judge William Jay Riley continued**

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Fitzgerald, Schorr, Barmettler & Brennan, PC,  
LLO (1973-1979); Partner, Fitzgerald, Schorr, Barmettler & Brennan, PC,  
LLO (1979-2001)

**Current Memberships:** American Board of Trial Advocates; American  
College of Trial Lawyers

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Sergio Garcia** ..... (402) 661-7579  
Education: Indiana 1998 JD  
Law Clerk **Merrill F. Messbarger** ..... (402) 661-7580  
Education: Creighton 2004 JD  
Law Clerk **Matt D. Schulz** ..... (402) 661-7578  
Education: Creighton 2004 JD  
Law Clerk **Jeffrey A. Stone** ..... (402) 661-7577  
Education: Iowa 2006 JD  
Administrative Assistant **Kristine Schneiss** ..... (402) 661-7575  
E-mail: ksneiss@ce8.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Michael J. Melloy**

625 First Street, SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
Tel: (319) 363-7580 Fax: (319) 363-6363

**Michael J. Melloy**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1948  
Education: Loras 1970 BA; Iowa 1974 JD  
Began Service: February 26, 2002  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Judicial:** Bankruptcy Judge, United States Bankruptcy Court for the  
Northern District of Iowa (1986-1992); District Judge, United States  
District Court for the Northern District of Iowa (1992-2002)

**Legal Practice:** Partner, O'Connor, Thomas, Wright, Hammer, Bertsch &  
Norby (1974-1986)

**Military Service:** United States Army (1970-1972); United States Army  
Reserve (1972-1976)

**Current Memberships:** The Dean Mason Ladd American Inn of Court, The  
American Inns of Court; Dubuque County Bar Association; Iowa State Bar  
Association; Linn County Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Rebecca Ebinger** ..... (319) 363-7580  
Education: Yale 2004 JD  
Law Clerk **Kate Mueting** ..... (319) 363-7580  
Began Service: 2007  
Law Clerk **Katie Verschelden** ..... (319) 363-7580  
Began Service: 2007  
Career Law Clerk **Douglas Stilwell** ..... (319) 363-7580  
Education: Iowa 1998 JD  
Administrative Secretary **Anita Wolrab** ..... (319) 363-7580

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Lavenski R. Smith**

P.O. Box 2340, Little Rock, AR 72203  
Tel: (501) 324-7310 Fax: (501) 324-7305

**Lavenski R. Smith**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1958  
Education: Arkansas 1981 BA, 1987 JD  
Began Service: July 19, 2002

**Academic:** Assistant Professor, John Brown University (1994-1996)

**Government:** Regulatory Liaison, Office of the Governor, State of Arkansas  
(1996-1997); Chairman, Public Service Commission, State of Arkansas  
(1997-1999)

**Judicial:** Associate Justice, Arkansas Supreme Court (1999-2000)

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Lavenski R. Smith continued**

**Legal Practice:** Law Clerk, Hall, Wright & Morris (1985-1987); Staff  
Attorney, Ozark Legal Services (1987-1991); Sole Proprietor, Smith Law  
Office (1991-1994)

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Cameron McCree** ..... (501) 324-7329  
Began Service: 2007  
Term Expires: 2008  
Education: Arkansas JD  
Law Clerk **Joshua A. Newton** ..... (501) 324-7310  
E-mail: joshua\_newton@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Education: Central Arkansas 2001 BS;  
Arkansas 2004 JD  
Law Clerk **Steven Wright** ..... (501) 324-7310  
E-mail: steven\_wright@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Judicial Administrator **Girtrude Simmons** ..... (501) 324-7310  
E-mail: girtrude\_simmons@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Administrative Assistant **Diann Duty** ..... (501) 324-7313  
E-mail: diann\_duty@ca8.uscourts.gov

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Steven M. Colloton**

110 East Court Avenue, Suite 461, Des Moines, IA 50309  
Tel: (515) 284-6356 Fax: (515) 284-6353

**Steven M. Colloton**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: January 9, 1963  
Education: Princeton 1985 BA; Yale 1988 JD  
Began Service: September 30, 2003  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Raymond W. Gruender III**

111 South Tenth Street, Suite 23.365, St. Louis, MO 63102-1116  
Tel: (314) 244-2820 Fax: (314) 244-2825

**Raymond W. Gruender III**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1963  
Education: Washington U (MO) 1984 BA, 1987 MBA, 1987 JD  
Began Service: June 28, 2004  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Government:** U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Missouri, United States  
Attorney's Office, United States Department of Justice, George H.W. Bush  
Administration (1990-1994)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Lewis, Rice & Fingersh, L.C. (1987-1990);  
Partner, Thompson Coburn LLP (1994-2000)

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Duane Benton**

400 East Ninth Street, Suite 1020, Kansas City, MO 64106  
Tel: (816) 512-5815 Fax: (816) 512-5829

**Duane Benton**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1950  
Education: Northwestern 1972 BA; Yale 1975 JD; Memphis State 1979 MBA;  
Virginia 1995 LL.M.  
Began Service: July 8, 2004  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Westminster College; Adjunct Professor,  
University of Missouri Columbia School of Law

**Government:** Administrative Assistant, U.S. Representative Wendell Bailey  
(R-MO, District 8), United States House of Representatives (1980-1982);  
State Revenue Director, State of Missouri (1989-1991)

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Duane Benton continued**

**Judicial:** Judge, Missouri Supreme Court (1991-2004); Chief Justice,  
Missouri Supreme Court (1997-1999)

**Military Service:** United States Navy (1975-1979); Judge Advocate  
General CAPT., United States Navy Reserves (1979-2002)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Association; American Institute of  
Certified Public Accountants; The Missouri Bar; Missouri Society of  
Certified Public Accountants

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Nicci Adams** ..... (816) 512-5823  
Began Service: 2007  
Education: Washington U (MO) JD  
Law Clerk **Megan Dunn** ..... (816) 512-5821  
Began Service: 2007  
Education: Missouri JD  
Law Clerk **Vicki Goldammer** ..... (816) 512-5822  
Began Service: 2007  
Education: Missouri JD  
Law Clerk **Sylvia Winston** ..... (816) 512-5824  
Began Service: 2007  
Education: Duke JD  
Chief of Staff **Elizabeth Healey** ..... (816) 512-5815  
E-mail: elizabeth\_healey@ca8.uscourts.gov  
Education: Missouri BA, JD

**Chambers of Circuit Judge Bobby E. Shepherd**

Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse, 111 South Tenth Street,  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
Tel: (314) 244-2600

**Bobby E. Shepherd**  
Circuit Judge

Date of Birth: 1951  
Education: Ouachita Baptist 1973 BA; Arkansas 1976 JD  
Began Service: October 2006  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Judicial:** Circuit-Chancery Judge, Arkansas 13th Judicial District  
(1991-1993); Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the  
Western District of Arkansas (1993-2006)

**Legal Practice:** Private Practice (1976-1990)

**Military Service:** United States Army Reserve (1976-1981)

**Current Memberships:** Arkansas Bar Association; Federal Magistrate  
Judges Association; Union County Bar Association

**Staff**

Law Clerk **Vicky Cooper** ..... (870) 863-3173  
Education: Arkansas (Little Rock) 1994 JD  
Law Clerk **Amanda B. Hurst** ..... (870) 863-3173  
Began Service: 2007  
Education: Arkansas 2006 JD  
Law Clerk **Andrew King** ..... (870) 863-3173  
Began Service: August 2007  
Education: Arkansas 2003 BS, 2007 JD  
Law Clerk **Spencer Singleton** ..... (870) 863-3173  
Education: Arkansas (Little Rock) 2001 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Becky Kaldem** ..... (870) 863-3173  
Education: Arkansas Tech 1976 BA